

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Patent Application of:  
James D. Marks**

Confirmation No. 3416

Application No.: 09/603,601

Filed: June 26, 2000

Art Unit: 2164

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
OPERATING AND FUNDING A QUESTION  
AND ANSWER INTERACTIVE SYSTEM

Examiner: Samuel G. Rimell

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.